GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2948
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2016
Linkage of Railway Line
Patel Shri Devji Mansingram

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways proposes to link Barmer-Jaisalmer-Bhabhar via Sanchore by railway line;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated cost and length of the said railway line;

(d) whether the said project is likely to be constructed under the Railways joint venture model with States;

(e) if so, the ratio of State Governments of Gujarat and Rajasthan and the Railways;

(f) whether any time limit has been set for completion of the work with regard to the said railway line; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (g): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

*****

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2948 BY SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 11.05.2016 REGARDING LINKAGE OF RAILWAY LINE.

(a) to (g): The details are as under:

The following two surveys have been conducted to assess the viability and feasibility of Jaisalmer-Barmer-Bhabhar new line project.,

(i) Jaisalmer-Barmer new line (145 Kms): The survey was completed in the year 2012-13. As per the survey report, cost of the project was assessed at `516.305 crore with a rate of return of (-) 7.74%.

(ii) Barmer-Bhabhar new line (193.940 Kms): The survey was completed in the year 2012-13. As per the survey report, cost of the project was assessed at `785.66 crore with a rate of return of (-) 7.38%.

The above two proposals could not be taken forward in view of huge throwforward of ongoing projects, limited availability of resources for new line projects and other competing demands. However, Ministry of Defence (MoD) were requested in August, 2013 to convey their views for fully financing the construction of Jaisalmer-Barmer new line project on strategic grounds due to its proximity to international border. MoD have not included this project in the list of 14 strategically important projects approved by them.

Sanchore does not fall on the alignments of the aforesaid surveys. However, a survey for Barmer-Dhanera via Sanchore new line was completed in the year 2014-15. As per the survey report, cost of the 180 Kms new line project was assessed at `1081.089 crore with a rate of return of (-) 7.86%. The project could not be taken forward in view of huge throwforward of ongoing projects, limited availability of resources for new line projects and other competing demands.

Government of Rajasthan have agreed in principle for creation of a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for construction of Barmer-Bhabhar new line which falls on Rajasthan and Gujarat. The SPV has not been formed. Therefore, shares of Railways and State Governments in the SPV are not decided.

As the project has not been sanctioned, no time lines for its completion have been fixed.

*****